

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DOHA 00408 280646Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 CU-06 ISO-00 L-03 A-01 MMO-04 PA-02 PER-05
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-----009869 280648Z /10

R 280545Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3509
USIA WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

UNCLAS DOHA 408

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, QA
SUBJECT: REQUEST BY MINISTER OF INFORMATION TO ESTABLISH A
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER IN DOHA

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF A MARCH 25 LETTER TO THE AMBASSADOR
FROM MINISTER OF INFORMATION ISSA AL KAWARI REQUESTING ESTABLISHMENT
OF A USIS OFFICE IN DOHA.

2. QTE DEAR MR. KILLGORE:

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR IS EVER AWARE OF THE
POSSIBILITIES FOR FURTHER STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPING THE TIES
BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE
AND INFORMATION.

3. QTE IN THIS CONTEXT, AND GIVEN THE RAPIDLY INCREASING
IMPORTANCE OF DOHA AS A CENTRE IN THE AREA, WE FEEL THAT IT
WOULD BE USEFUL IF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA WERE TO SET UP AN OFFICE FOR THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION
SERVICE IN DOHA, SIMILAR TO THE ONES THAT ALREADY EXIST IN THE
OTHER GULF STATES.

4. QTE WE ARE CERTAIN THAT SUCH AN OFFICE WILL HAVE AS IMPORTANT
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ROLE TO PLAY IN THE PROMOTION OF INFORMATION AND CULTURAL
EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE STATE OF QATAR AND THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA.

5. QTE WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU IN THIS RESPECT, AND
REMAIN, SINCERELY YOURS, ISSA GHANIM AL KAWARI, MINISTRY OF
INFORMATION UNQTE

6. MINISTER AL KAWARI, ALSO DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF AMIR KHALIFA, IS ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MEN IN QATAR. HE IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF USIS WHO HAS ALSO PERSONALLY URGED ME TO TRY TO ESTABLISH USIS IN DOHA. AL KAWARI'S RECEPTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS AMERICAN INFORMATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS REFLECTS A WIDESPREAD GENERAL ATTITUDE IN THIS COUNTRY, WHICH ASSURES US OF SUCCESS IF, AS I DEVOUTLY HOPE, WE SOON ESTABLISH A RESIDENT ICA PRESENCE HERE.
KILLGORE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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